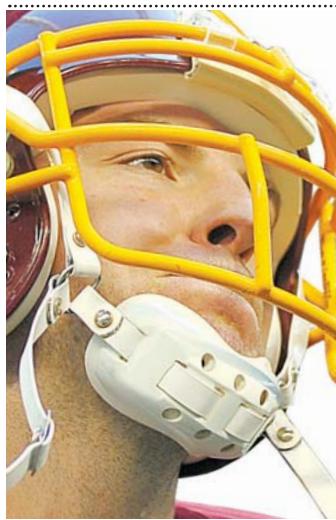


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express

www.expressnightout.com

Monday



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DECEMBER 20, 2010 | A PUBLICATION OF The Washington Post | NEWS, ENTERTAINMENT, ARTS, LIFESTYLES | FREE DAILY

OUT IN THE OPEN

AFTER CONGRESS' REPEAL OF
'DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL,' THE
PENTAGON DEBATES THE BEST
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FOR EXTENDED FORECAST, SEE PAGE 29

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eye openers

If You're Tacky and You Know It, Smack Your Hand

An Abu Dhabi luxury hotel that boasted an \$11 million Christmas tree admitted Sunday it may have taken the holiday spirit too far. A statement from the Emirates Palace Hotel said it regretted "attempts to overload" the Christmas tree tradition by adorning it with premium bling including gold, rubies, diamonds and other precious stones from a hotel jeweler. (AP)

Typists Await Fall of Civilization

About a dozen people showed up in Philadelphia Saturday with typewriters for a "Type-In" at a pub, where they chatted about their love for the ancient devices. Organizer Michael McGettigan notes that typewriters can work for decades as long as ribbons can be had. (AP)

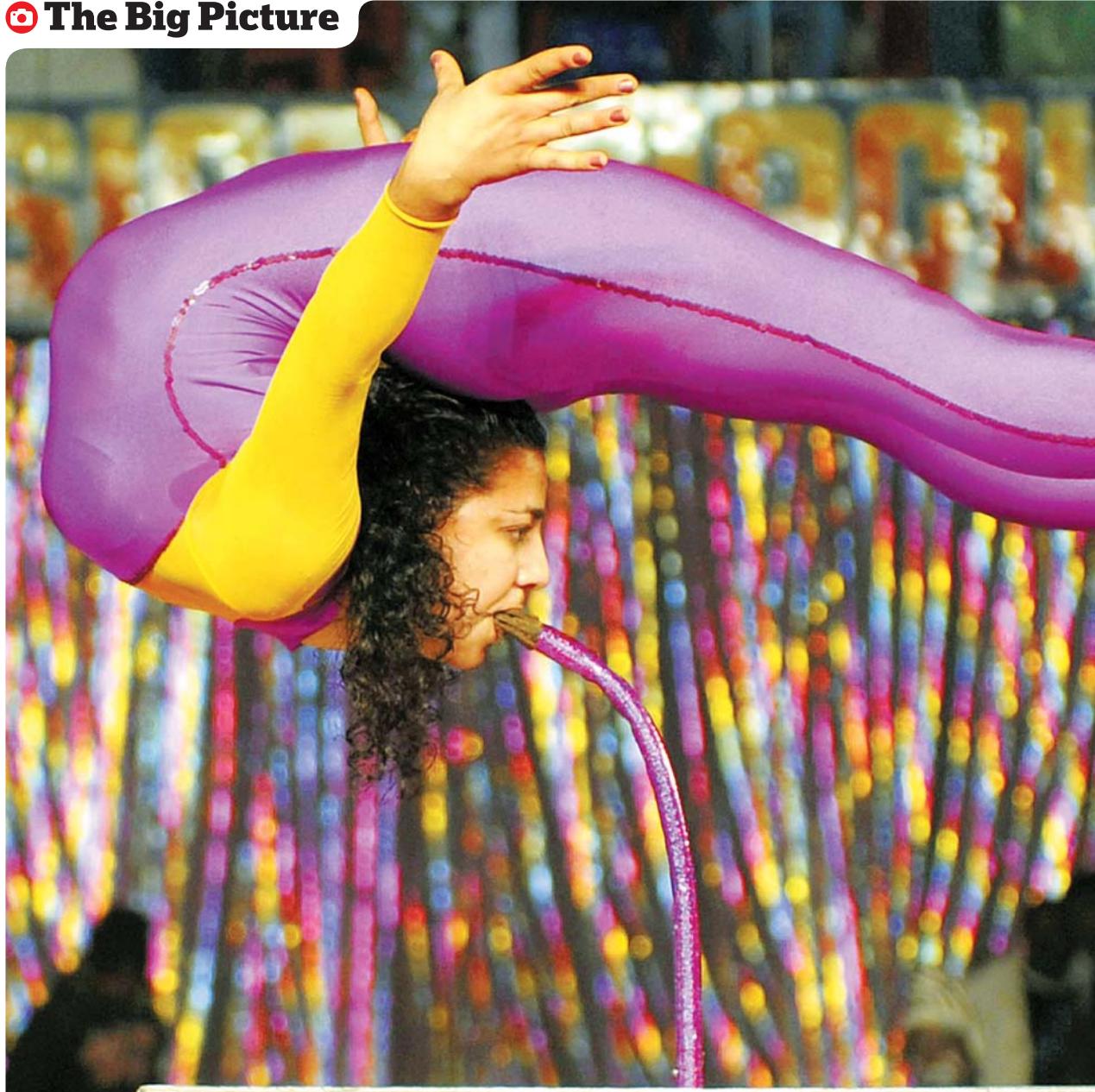


Pioneer Paves Way for Other Female Retirees

A 26-year-old man thought he was doing a good deed when he took a 70-year-old woman for a ride to and from a Minnesota bank. But police say the woman robbed the bank, and the man driving a Jaguar was her unsuspecting getaway driver. Police stopped the car in Janesville and took both people into custody. They quickly determined the woman acted alone. (AP)

The Big Picture

NARINDER NANU/AFP/GETTY IMAGES



ARMENIAN ARTIST Ani performs during the opening of the Asiad Circus on the outskirts of Amritsar, India, on Friday. Zero in 10 dentists recommend trying this at home. (EXPRESS)

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THIS WEEK



Medvedev Visits India

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev arrives Tuesday in India. He's the latest leader to visit the rising Asian power. The two nations are expected to sign several agreements.

Census Data Report

The 2010 census report comes out Tuesday, filled with good news for the GOP and grim data for Democrats, as the Census Bureau releases its once-a-decade report to the president.

Total Lunar Eclipse

A total lunar eclipse will happen early Tuesday, and Central and North America should be able to view the entire show. The total eclipse begins at 2:41 a.m. Tuesday.

A Temporary 'Bipartisan Moment'

Tax compromise sets the stage once more for partisan standoffs

Washington

In the year-end tax debate of 2010, President Obama got the economic stimulus he sought while Democrats in Congress settled for picking a political fight.

Far more quietly, Republicans pocketed a two-year extension of George W. Bush-era tax cuts at all income levels and a sweetened estate tax to go with it, without having to swallow billions in public works spending that would have inflamed their tea party supporters.

By the time Obama had signed the bill on Friday, he and Rep. Eric Cantor, the conservative Virginian in line to become House majority leader, could have read entire sections of each other's speeches.

It was, as Florida Republican Rep. Ginny Brown-Waite said in the House, "a bipartisan moment of clarity."

It won't last. Republicans will be in a position to pay less deference to the Democrats in Congress beginning in January, when the GOP takes control of the House and adds seats in the Senate.

But the alignment of political forces that led to the tax bill could reoccur before the 2012 elections if the



President Obama succeeded Friday in signing the tax bill he negotiated with the GOP.



Meanwhile

The Senate's top Republican, Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, said Sunday on CNN's "State of the Union" that he and Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., have agreed on a spending measure to keep the government running through March. Passing the bill — known as a "continuing resolution" — would prevent a government shutdown. The budget year began Oct. 1, but Congress hasn't passed any of its annual spending bills. (AP)

president and Republicans leaders decide it's in their mutual interest to rein in federal deficits.

For now, the compromise underscored the change in government the voters decreed at midterm elections on Nov. 2.

Democrats are already focused on the 2012 elections, and their principal objective was to attack Republicans. In the short term, they lashed out at Obama also, and wound up far from united.

The tax bill, which included extended unemployment benefits and a one-year cut in Social Security taxes, drew opposition in the end from 112 Democrats in the House and 14 in the Senate. Only 36 Republicans in the House and five in the Senate spurned the Obama-GOP deal.

Still, Democratic unhappiness in the Senate was mild compared with that in the House, where the party's grip on power is measured in mere days. Democrats had pledged to keep the bill from the House floor unless it was changed. They were allowed a vote to remove the estate tax provision they opposed, but failed.

One final maneuver for the Democrats — to reject the bill and pass one without any tax cuts for the wealthy — would have thrown the issue back to the Senate. It was viewed as too politically risky a few days before taxes were scheduled to rise on millions. DAVID ESPO (AP)



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Nation

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Shoppers Swarm Stores as Holiday Push Nears End

New York

Shoppers came out in droves on the last weekend before Christmas, tackling their gift lists and driving traffic up at malls across the country.

"People are a little panicked," said Dan Jasper, public relations director at the Mall of America in Bloomington, Minn. "I'm hearing them say 'We've gotta get this done,' and that doesn't usually show up until the 22nd or the 23rd."

Greg Maloney, CEO of the retail

200K

The estimated number of shoppers Saturday at the Mall of America in Bloomington, Minn., the nation's largest mall. Saturday was its busiest day so far this year. (AP)

practice of Jones Lang LaSalle, which operates about 90 malls across the country, said traffic was up 10 percent to 12 percent across the country over the same weekend last year.

Most shoppers had about half their Christmas shopping left heading into the weekend, according to the National Retail Federation.

The Saturday before Christmas is known as "Super Saturday," among retailers. Research company ShopperTrak expects it will have been the third-busiest shopping day this year.

Online shopping was strong, too. On Saturday, online retail spending rose 18 percent compared to the same day a year ago, according to IBM Coremetrics. (AP)



Police on Tuesday comb through brush searching for bodies in Cedar Beach, N.Y.

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Questions Persist About N.Y. Bodies

Police: 'Anything is possible' in case of 4 found dead on island

Babylon, N.Y.

A week after police accidentally discovered the bodies of four women strewn over a quarter-mile stretch of marshy grasslands, overgrown shrubbery and sea grass on a barrier island, mere paces from an oceanfront parkway, investigators are vexed by the basic questions: Who are they, and how did they get there?

By week's end, police brass appeared to concede they were stumped, even backing away from earlier notions that a serial killer may be responsible.

"We have no idea whatsoever whether we're dealing with a serial killer," Deputy Inspector William Neubauer said Friday. "Anything is possible at this point."

Early suspicions were that the bodies may have been those of escorts who booked clients via Craigslist who disappeared on Long Island, across Great South Bay from Jones Island, where the remains were found.

Detectives believe the four women probably died elsewhere and were dumped just off the highway, but they remain open to any scenario.

Backstory

Police found the first body on Dec. 11 on Jones Island, N.Y., while investigating the disappearance of a New Jersey woman; the other three women were found two days later. The bodies were in various states of decomposition; one victim appeared to have been dead for 18 months or longer. An expanded highway search wrapped up Friday with police declaring it unlikely that other bodies would be found. (AP)

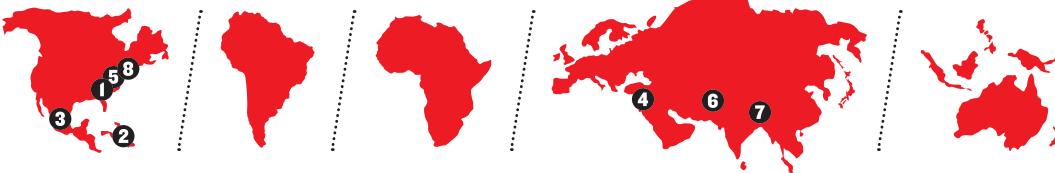
The bodies appear to have been dumped on the remote stretch of highway — about nine miles east of Jones Beach, in a place where the only reason for a driver to stop is a flat tire.

"I am at a loss as to who could have done it," said Dorothy Warren, who lives in Oak Beach, about three miles from where the bodies were found. "I just hope it wasn't one of my neighbors."

Authorities have sought the expertise of the New York City medical examiner to help determine the women's identities, a task they said could take up to a month.

The Suffolk County medical examiner said officials eventually hope to submit DNA samples from the victims to a national database of missing people. (AP)

Weekend Review



1 CHARLOTTE, N.C.

Bank of America Halts Services for WikiLeaks

Bank of America Corp. on Saturday refused to handle payments for WikiLeaks, the latest blow to the secret-releasing group. The Charlotte, N.C.-based bank's move follows similar actions by MasterCard Inc. and PayPal Inc. (AP)

2 PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI

Haiti Is Asked to Delay Election Announcement

The Organization of American States asked Haitian President Rene Preval to delay announcing election results until an international panel of experts can review the vote, officials said Saturday. Final results from the Nov. 28 vote, showing who would vie in a January runoff, were expected Monday. (AP)

3 MEXICO CITY

Officials Under Scrutiny After 141 Inmates Escape

About 141 inmates escaped Friday from a Mexican prison near the border with Laredo, Texas, and authorities said the breakout was likely helped by prison employees. Officials said the prison's director could not be located, and that he and others were under investigation. (AP)

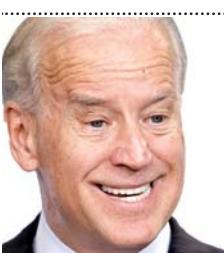


4 Protest Flares in Israel

A Palestinian near Nilin, Israel, wearing a plastic bag to shield himself from tear gas, throws back a tear gas grenade lobbed by Israeli troops. Friday's protest was part of a weekly demonstration against a controversial barrier that divides the West Bank village. (AP)

5 "We're starting it in July of 2011, and we're going to be totally out of there, come hell or high water, by 2014."

— VICE PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN, SPEAKING SUNDAY ON NBC'S "MEET THE PRESS" ABOUT THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION'S INTENT TO BEGIN WITHDRAWING U.S. TROOPS FROM COMBAT IN AFGHANISTAN.



6 PESHAWAR, PAKISTAN

3 U.S. Missile Strikes Kill 54 Suspected Militants

Three American missile attacks killed 54 alleged militants Friday close to the Afghan border, an unusually high number of victims that included commanders of a Taliban-allied group who were holding a meeting, Pakistani officials said. The attacks took place in the Khyber tribal region. (AP)

7 DHAKA, BANGLADESH

Boat Collision Kills 37

A boat packed with passengers capsized on a river in northeastern Bangladesh, and rescuers said Sunday at least 37 people died and 18 more were missing. The boat, which was carrying about 80 people, collided with a sand-laden cargo vessel in the darkness late Saturday night on the River Surma, local government officials said. (AP)

8 NEW YORK

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The amount of money that the widow of Florida philanthropist Jeffry Picower agreed on Friday to return, which is the combined profit over the decades that she and her husband received from disgraced financier Bernard Madoff's fund. (AP)

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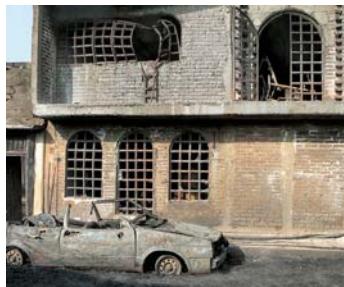
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World

In Brief



JOSE CASTAÑO/AF/GETTY IMAGES

An oil pipeline explosion in San Martin Texmelucan killed 27 people Sunday.

MEXICO CITY

Death Toll From Pipeline Explosion Rises to 27

A massive pipeline exploded in central Mexico early Sunday as people were trying to steal oil, killing at least 27 people and sending rivers of flaming crude through city streets. Authorities estimated that the explosion and spill in San Martin Texmelucan affected a three-mile radius, injuring at least 52 people. (AP)

JERUSALEM

American Tourist Is Found Stabbed to Death

Israeli police discovered the body of an American woman, hands bound and full of stab wounds, in a forest outside Jerusalem on Sunday, a day after her friend said Arab assailants attacked the pair during a hike in the hills. A police spokesman said authorities were treating the attack as political in nature and identified the woman as Christine Logan. (AP)

Korea Strains Put World on Edge

South's live-fire drill plans spurs North to warn of 'catastrophe'

United Nations

World powers trying to defuse tensions between North and South Korea met in an emergency session of the U.N. Security Council on Sunday but disagreed over whether the North should be singled out for criticism over two deadly attacks this year that have helped send relations to their lowest point in decades.

China and Russia, the countries with the closest North Korea ties, have expressed concern about the South Korean military's plans to conduct one-day, live-fire drills by Tuesday on the same front-line island the North shelled last month as the South conducted a similar exercise. The United States supports South Korea, a staunch ally, and says any country has a right to train for self-defense.

The North warned of a "catastrophe" if South Korea goes ahead with the drills. The reclusive com-



AHN YOUNG-JOON/AP

South Korean marines patrol on Yeonpyeong Island, South Korea, on Sunday.

Backstory

Several bloody naval skirmishes occurred along the western sea border between the two Koreas in recent years, but last month's assault was the first by the North to target a civilian area since the end of the 1950-53 Korean War. The North does not recognize the U.N.-drawn sea border in the area. The North claims South Korea fired artillery toward its territorial waters before it unleashed shells on the island on Nov. 23, while the South says it launched shells southward, not toward North Korea, as part of routine exercises. (AP)



Wintry Weather Grounds Lady Gaga: Stranded travelers slept on makeshift beds at European airports Sunday as wintry weather caused travel havoc, dashing the hopes of those attempting to head away for the holidays by road, rail and air. In Paris, a Lady Gaga concert was canceled because trucks delivering sets for the pop diva's extravagant event couldn't get to the city's Bercy stadium. The show was expected to be rescheduled for Tuesday. (AP)

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before



after

unist government in Pyongyang said it would strike back harder than it did last month, when two South Korean marines and two civilians were killed on Yeonpyeong Island.

South Korea says the drills are routine, defensive in nature and should not be considered threatening.

Russia called for the Security Council meeting, and Moscow wants the U.N.'s most powerful body to adopt a statement calling on North Korea and South Korea "to exercise maximum restraint" and urging immediate diplomatic efforts to reduce tensions.

Russia and China — which are permanent members of the 15-nation council along with the U.S., Britain and France — just want a statement to urge calm and appoint an envoy, but most council members view that as unfairly equating the actions of the two Koreas, said a council diplomat.

China, the North's key ally, has said it is "unambiguously opposed" to any acts that could worsen already high tensions.

EDITH M. LEDERER (AP)

World



Supporters of President Laurent Gbagbo sing Sunday during a rally in Ivory Coast.

UN: Ivory Coast's Abductions Grow

'Massive violations' of human rights on the rise since election

Abidjan, Ivory Coast

The United Nations said Sunday it has received hundreds of reports of people being abducted from their homes at night by armed assailants in military uniform and that there is growing evidence of "massive violations of human rights" since Ivory Coast's disputed election.

The statement from the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights came a day after the U.N. said it would remain in Ivory Coast despite demands from the man refusing to give up the presidency that thousands of peacekeepers get out of the West African country.

Navi Pillay, the top U.N. human rights official, said Sunday that more than 50 people have been killed over the past three days in

Meanwhile ...

The State Department ordered most of its personnel Sunday to leave Ivory Coast because of what officials are calling a deteriorating political and security situation and growing anti-Western sentiment. The order exempts only the State Department's emergency personnel. U.S. officials are also warning American citizens to avoid travel to the nation until further notice. (AP)

Ivory Coast; previous estimates were that up to 30 people had died in the violence.

International pressure is mounting for Laurent Gbagbo to concede defeat to opposition leader Alassane Ouattara, whose victory has been recognized by the United Nations, the United States, former colonizer France and the African Union.

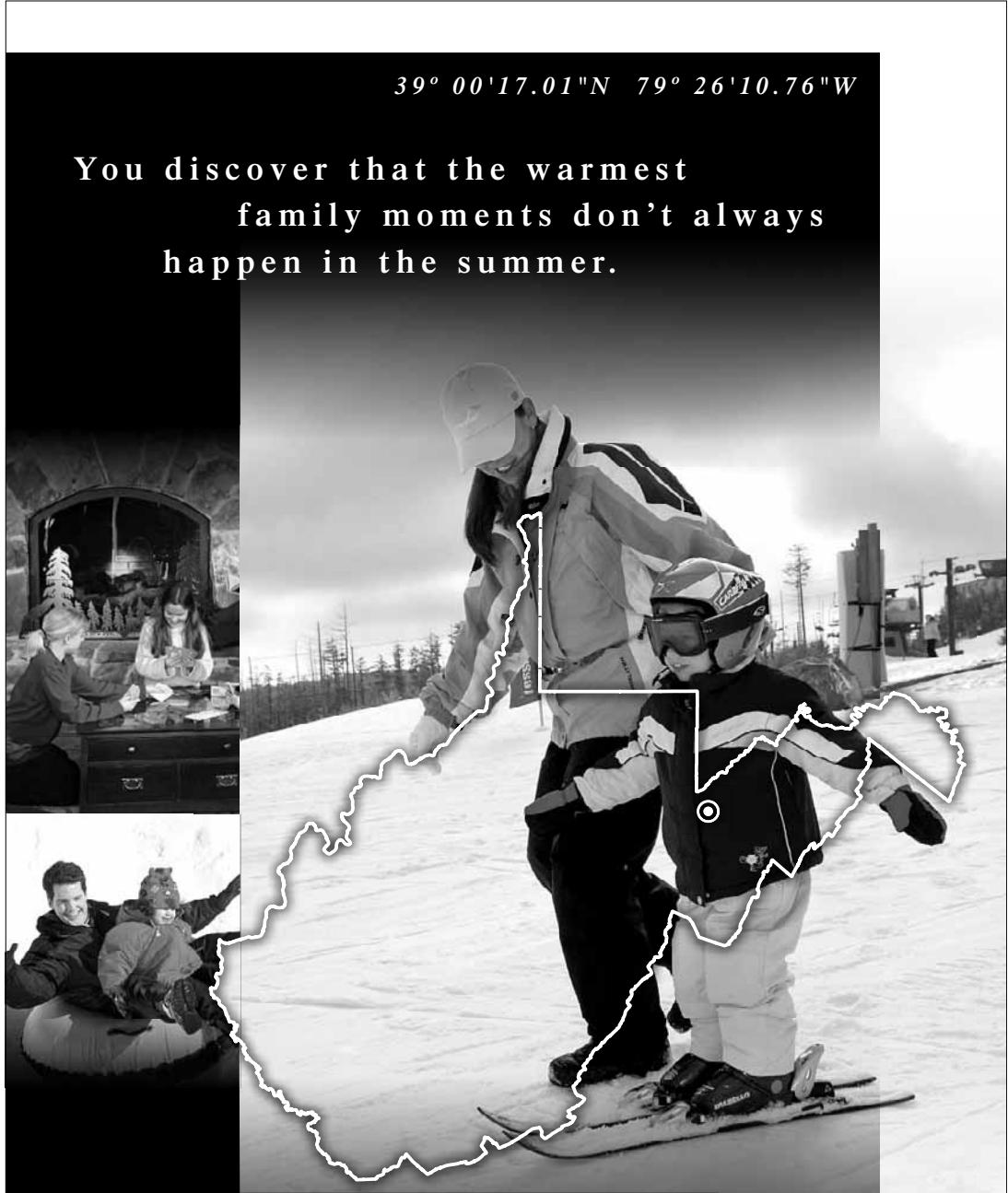
The EU was giving Gbagbo until Sunday to concede defeat. (AP)

Teen Sailor Reaches St. Maarten

A 15-year-old Dutch sailor on Sunday completed the longest leg so far of her attempted circumnavigation of the globe, saying it felt "really weird" to be back on dry land after nearly three weeks out on the ocean. Laura Dekker, aiming to become the youngest person to sail solo around the world, was in good spirits after completing the 2,532 land-mile trip from the Cape Verde Islands off West Africa. (AP)

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Soul Train



To 33-year-old physician Adam Possner, right, the daily trip from Twinbrook to Foggy Bottom (and back) isn't just a commute; it's poetry in motion. The simple process of walking a block, boarding a train, switching lines and then arriving at work has enchanted Possner, who moved here from Baltimore five months ago.

"I love the Metro," declares the Louisville, Ky., native, who's never before been able to depend on public transportation.

Possner is so impressed with the system he immortalized it in an ode. "Subway Religion" is not his first stab at poetry, but it's a departure from Possner's other works, which

are typically inspired by his day job and have appeared in various medical journals. "This was something that just came to me," he says.

From his first trip, Possner was enraptured by the soaring, cathedral-like interiors of D.C.'s Metro stations. Passengers' behavior reinforced this sense of the sacred.



METRO PULSE

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Lawrence Swider, TENLEYTOWN

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"When you're on the train, everyone's sitting in these seats that are lined up like pews, and they're so solemn and silent," he says. "It's almost as though they're praying."

VICKY HALLETT (EXPRESS)

Subway Religion

By Adam Possner

*Under a high vaulted ceiling
in somber light
hundreds of people wait
as if outside St. Peter's on Christmas night.
Of every race and creed
rich and poor
they await the appearance
of that sacred door.
Finally, with a burst of wind and noise
the time arrives.
"Doors opening"
an invisible female usher chimes.
From the dark open space
the crowd quickly moves
into a fluorescent sanctuary
with oily windows and vinyl pews.
They settle into seats
or move to the center of the room.
15 seconds later — "Doors closing"
and the service resumes.
The ritual is essentially the same
seven days a week
a conductor speaks in tongues
amid a moving cacophony.
Meanwhile, swaying and bobbing
each congregant does his or her own thing
usually sleeping or reading
or listening to music or texting.
The doctrine is simple
easy for anyone to follow
pass through the collection gate
and foreswear anything you can swallow.
Welcome to the Subway Religion
where more than peace or love
what matters most in life
is getting to that place up above.*

Fight Brews for D.C. Food Vendors

Adams Morgan store owners say market is taking away business

Washington

Armando Melgarez lends a broom, a bathroom or a soccer score to the outdoor food vendors who gather three days a week steps from his Salvadorean/Mexican restaurant in Adams Morgan. He feels a kinship with the vendors, some of whom come from the same part of El Salvador where Melgarez was raised. But they are also his competition.



ASTRID BIECKEN/FP

Every weekend in Adams Morgan, a dozen Latino vendors sell food at Unity Park.

"I don't like to tell them I'm not happy, because I feel like they are part of the family," Melgarez said. "On the other hand, we're losing a lot of business."

Melgarez, who owns Combination on Columbia Road, is one of several Adams Morgan businessmen protesting a two-year-old market at the intersection of Columbia Road, and Euclid and Champlain streets. To restaurateurs, their objections are a matter of fairness.

Bryan Weaver, one of the ANC commissioners for the area, said the market adds character to the community and is reminiscent of the vendors on Columbia Road from

Backstory

The Office on Latino Affairs designed the program to help illegal vendors get the business skills to eventually become fully licensed or to open their own restaurants. The office got permission to operate from the city's Parks and Recreation Department and provided \$30,000 a year to support the program. (AP)

the 1970s and 1980s. Weaver suggested incorporating local restaurants and adding other types of vendors, such as butchers or florists, to attract more foot traffic for all local businesses.

"I don't think this has to be an adversarial relationship," Weaver said. (THE WASHINGTON POST)

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A Cautious Approach

With historic repeal of 'don't ask' passed, military mulls how to implement policy

Washington

The debate over gays in the military has been settled with a historic decision to allow them to serve openly, but big questions lie ahead about how and when the change will take place, how troops will accept it and whether it will hamper the U.S. military effort in Afghanistan and Iraq.

President Obama is expected to sign into law this week the legislation that passed the Senate on Saturday, an act some believe will carry social implications as profound as President Harry S. Truman's 1948 executive order on racial equality in the military.

The new law probably won't go into practice for months. Obama and his top advisers must first certify that repealing the 1993 ban on gays' serving openly will not damage U.S. troops' ability to fight. That ban, known as "don't ask, don't tell," has allowed gays to serve, but only if they kept quiet about their sexual orientation. In the meantime, the restrictions will remain on the books, although it's unclear how fully they will be enforced.

The repeal vote by Congress was a political victory for Obama, who campaigned on ending the ban. Even though opponents have made clear they will continue to argue against the change, Peter Mansoor, a retired Army colonel who commanded a brigade in Iraq, said Sunday he believes the military will accept its new orders. "Pretty much all the heated discussion is over, and now it's a matter of the more mundane aspects of implementing the law," Mansoor said.

That begins, under terms of the legislation, with Obama's certification to Congress — for which there's no deadline. On Saturday, Defense Secretary Robert Gates said he will begin the certification process immediately. But a change in policy won't come until after consultation with military service chiefs and combatant commanders, he said.

Gates has supported Obama's push to repeal the ban, but stressed a go-slow

The History

1950 President Harry S. Truman signs the Uniform Code of Military Justice, setting up discharge rules for gay service members.

1982 President Ronald Reagan issues a defense directive saying that "homosexuality is incompatible with military service."



1993 President Clinton introduces a compromise—"don't Ask, don't Tell"—on his pledge to end the ban on gays in the military.

2006 The Supreme Court rules unanimously that the federal government can withhold funding to force universities to accept military recruiters in violation of university non-discrimination policies, essentially upholding "don't ask, don't tell."

2010 In the matter of three days, both houses of a lame-duck Congress pass a repeal of "don't ask, don't tell."



THE REPEAL EFFORT: Lt. Dan Choi, who was discharged from the Army under "don't ask, don't tell" and has championed efforts to end the ban, is arrested after protesting for gay rights at the White House this year.

Growing Support

44% The portion of Americans in May 1993 who believed gays who closed their sexual orientation should be allowed to serve in the military.

77% The portion of Americans who think so now, according to a Washington Post-ABC News poll released this month.

approach. "Successful implementation will depend upon strong leadership, a clear message and proactive education throughout the force," Gates said.

Gay rights activists say the complications and uncertainties are being overblown.

"Only three steps are needed to assure a smooth and quick transition to open gay service," said Aaron Belkin, director of the Palm Center, a research institute at the Universi-

ty of California, Santa Barbara. They are an immediate executive order from Obama suspending all discharges of gay service members; a few weeks to put new regulations in place; and then immediate certification to Congress that the new law will work.

There remains, however, doubt among some that the way ahead will be smooth.

Richard Myers, a former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told CNN's "State of the Union" that the degree of difficulty in the immediate future is hard to predict. "But in the long run I think we can" make the change without hurting military effectiveness.

Bryan Taylor of Prattville, Ala., who served four years on active duty and in November was elected to the Alabama Senate, isn't as sure. "I think this is going to pose a lot of challenges for the military," Taylor said. When a soldier openly declares he is gay, "it does create an unnecessary distraction." ROBERT BURNS (AP)

4 Steps Before Repeal

1st

The ban on gays in the military will not be formally lifted until after President Obama and top military leaders report to Congress that they have reviewed the findings of the Pentagon review about the ban, released last month, and that the Defense Department has drafted policies and regulations to stop enforcing "don't ask, don't tell."

2nd

After the finding, lawmakers will be able to hold hearings for two months to review the Pentagon's policies and procedures for accepting openly gay troops, according to congressional aides.

3rd

Close military observers say that the ease of ending the ban will vary widely among the military branches and that the Pentagon could stagger implementation of the change.

4th

Aaron Belkin, director of the Palm Center—a research institute in California—expects the Pentagon to say that it needs up to a year for training and education to prepare troops for the change. (TWP/AP)

Money

Trim Your Monster of a Mortgage

Refinancing and tax know-how may cut that big monthly bill

New York

Don't let a big debt run your life. There are ways to trim your monthly costs that will move you closer to a mortgage-free retirement.

Paying early

Make one extra payment every year and apply the extra cash toward principal.

"That will cut about eight years off your 30-year fixed loan," said Pava Leyrer, president of Heritage National Mortgage in Michigan.

There are several ways to do this. You can make a full extra payment all at once. Leyrer suggests using your tax refund. Still, it may be easier to pay throughout the



STOCKPHOTO

Take advantage of your tax refund by turning it into an extra mortgage payment.

year. For example, if your monthly payment is \$1,200, pay \$100 each month. Another option: Some banks will deduct half the mortgage payment from your account every two weeks, which adds up to 13 payments a year.

Seek a lower rate

You're probably aware that mortgage rates have been at their lowest level in decades. What does that mean for you as a homeowner? You could possibly shave hundreds of dollars off your monthly payment.

The rule of thumb is that refinancing often makes financial sense if you can secure a rate that's 1 percentage point or more lower than your current loan. You will pay off the closing costs with the savings within a couple of years and realize greater savings on interest over the life of the loan.

For homeowners looking to increase their home's value through improvements or repairs, opt for an FHA 203K loan for expenses up to \$35,000.

Be tax savvy

One of the perks of being a homeowner is that mortgage interest payments are tax-deductible. To increase your deduction, make your January payment before Dec. 31 of the previous year. That will also add up to 13 payments for the year, and the bigger tax refund can be used to get ahead. **JANNA HERRON (AP)**

Debit Card Rewards' Final Days?

New York

A proposed cap on the fees that banks charge for debit card transactions would substantially reduce the cost for businesses. But it's started a death watch for debit card rewards and renewed predictions that free checking is done for.

The Federal Reserve's proposal to cap these fees, at 12 cents per transaction, would enable retailers to pass on annual savings of \$10 billion to \$13 billion to consumers. But banks and card networks maintain that retailers will pocket the savings. This would leave consumers to bear the brunt of the new law through higher costs for banking and reduced rewards programs.

In releasing its proposal Thursday, Fed staff said they found the cost to banks for processing is between 7 cents and 12 cents per transaction. Yet every time a customer swipes a debit card, the average fee is 44 cents. (AP)

At Your Service: The personal touch is making a comeback. That old-fashioned habit of stopping in at your local bank branch is being encouraged again as the banking industry looks to put the spark back in service. Citi offers free Wi-Fi at its flagship location in New York City's Union Square neighborhood, Bank of America's personal bankers are being trained to spend more time with customers, and Chase is adding 400 locations in the next two years. (AP)

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Grossman Comes Up Just Short

New Redskins QB leads late rally only to see Cowboys win



Cowboys 10 10 10 3 33

Redskins 0 7 7 16 30

Directed by new starting quarterback Rex Grossman, the Washington Redskins showed significant improvement on offense but continued their season-ending slide Sunday in a 33-30 loss to the Dallas Cowboys at Cowboys Stadium.

Grossman impressed in his first game since supplanting benched six-time Pro Bowler Donovan McNabb, passing for 322 yards, matching a career high with four touchdown passes and helping the Redskins tie the score at 30 in the fourth quarter after they trailed by as many as 20 points in the third.

But quarterback Jon Kitna led the Cowboys into field goal range, and placekicker David Buehler made a 39-yarder with 50 seconds remaining to give Dallas the victory.

After a touchback on the kickoff, Washington started on its 20-yard line with 50 seconds remaining. Cowboys cornerback Terence Newman intercepted Grossman's pass to end the game, and the Redskins (5-9) lost their fourth straight and five of their last six. They dropped into a last-place tie with the Cowboys (5-9) in the NFC East.

Grossman delivered a big performance in his first start since Nov. 9, 2008, when he led the Chicago Bears against the Tennessee



JOHN McDONNELL/TWP

Redskins quarterback Rex Grossman (8) passes in the fourth. He finished 25-43 passing with four TDs and two INTs in the loss.

Report Card



BEST CALL: After converting one two-point conversion, the Redskins dialed up another with an deceptive play-action pass to Mike Sellers in the fourth quarter to tie the game.

WORST CALL: The Redskins ran the ball only 14 times and relied on a heavy diet of screens and wheel routes that were ineffective.

BEST ADJUSTMENT: For the second-straight game, it took nearly three quarters for Chris Cooley to get his hands on the ball, but when he did, he was integral to the rally.

C The QB switch didn't totally blow up in Shanahan's face but did come back to bite him.



TIM SHARP/AP

Donovan McNabb, right, watches Sunday after being benched by Mike Shanahan.

Orakpo May Be Done

Redskins linebacker Brian Orakpo is concerned he could miss the final two games of the season after suffering groin and hamstring injuries while in pass coverage in the second quarter. As the Cowboys were driving for a touchdown that would put them up 20-7, Orakpo tackled Felix Jones after a 32-yard gain but said he instantly knew something was wrong. "It's a bad situation," Orakpo said. (THE WASHINGTON POST)

see Titans.

The Redskins scored at least 30 points in a game for the first time since Dec. 13 of last season against the Oakland Raiders — a span of 16 games. Wide receiver Santana Moss had 72 yards receiving and two touchdowns — his first multiple-touchdown performance since Oct. 1, 2006.

On three drives spanning the third and fourth quarters, Grossman led the Redskins to three-straight touchdowns. Each culminated with touchdown passes — two to Moss and one to tight end Chris Cooley, who had five catches for 62 yards. Grossman also completed consecutive two-point conversion passes to Cooley and Mike Sellers to help Washington tie the score at 30 with 7 minutes, 37 seconds to play in the fourth quarter.

Kitna, the Cowboys' quarterback, was sharp in the first two quarters. He had a 117.8 passer rating while passing for 222 yards and two touchdowns with no interceptions in the first half, and finished the day with 305 yards passing. (THE WASHINGTON POST)



56

RUSHING YARDS

322

PASSING YARDS

25 / 43

COMPLETIONS/ATTEMPTS

3

TURNOVERS

3 / 25

PENALTIES/YARDS

24:39

TIME OF POSSESSION

35:21

Sunday's Stars

London Fletcher was all over the field, and finished with seven tackles and four assists.



Jon Kitna can still get around with the best of them at 38, and threw for 305 yards and two TDs.





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Sunday Recap

Top Dogs



Ray Rice, RB, Ravens

Rice powered the Ravens' running game with 153 yards and a touchdown in Baltimore's 30-24 win over Super Bowl champion New Orleans. He also grabbed five receptions for 80 yards—tied for the game-high—and scored a TD in the air.



Michael Vick, QB, Eagles

The MVP candidate took full advantage of his duel-threat abilities Sunday, throwing for 242 yards and a touchdown, and running for 130 yards and another score as the Eagles rallied to defeat the Giants, 38-31.

Newsmakers

Peyton Manning
QB, Colts

Manning's interception woes are officially over, as he avoided the turnover bug for a second-straight game while throwing for 229 yards and two touchdowns in the Colts' 34-24 win over the Jaguars.

Injuries

Terrell Owens, WR, Bengals

Owens reinjured his left knee in Cincy's win Sunday.

Austin Collie, WR, Colts

Collie suffered a concussion after scoring two TDs.

Nate Allen, S, Eagles

Allen suffered a serious right knee injury in the first half Sunday.

Scoreboard

Chargers 34, 49ers 7 (Thu.)

Ravens 30, Saints 24

Panthers 19, Cardinals 12

Bengals 19, Browns 17

Cowboys 33, Redskins 30

Colts 34, Jaguars 24

Bills 17, Dolphins 14

Eagles 38, Giants 31

Chiefs 27, Rams 13

Lions 23, Bucs 20 (OT)

Titans 31, Texans 17

Steelers, Jets (Late)

Full results at washingtonpost.com

The Numbers

2007

The last time the Lions won on the road before their overtime win against Tampa Bay on Sunday. Their last road win: Oct. 28, 2007.

25

The number of NFL players to have rushed for 10,000 yards in their career. Kansas City's Thomas Jones joined the list in the Chiefs' 27-13 win on Sunday.

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Jackson, Eagles Stun the Giants

Pro Football

Just call it the great escape. Michael Vick engineered it. DeSean Jackson capped it. And the Philadelphia Eagles have control of the NFC East firmly in their hands because of it.

Jackson scored on a 65-yard punt return on the final play of the game, and the Eagles scored 28 points in the final 7:28 to stun the New York Giants 38-31 and take over first place in the NFC East.

Emphasizing his candidacy for

the MVP award, Vick threw for two touchdowns and ran for another in the incredible late rally that all but clinched the division for the Eagles (10-4) and left Giants coach Tom

 38 |  31

Coughlin so angry he threw his notes as Jackson backed into the end zone. Philadelphia only needs to win one of its final two games or have New York lose one of its two to win the NFC East. (AP)

TV Lineup

WIZARDS (7 P.M., CSN) Rashard Lewis could make his debut with the Wizards when they face the Bobcats.

PRO FOOTBALL (8:30 P.M., ESPN)

The Bears and Vikings should bundle up for a game that will be played outdoors in the Metrodome aftermath.

PRO HOCKEY (8 P.M., MASN)

The Boston Bruins host the Anaheim Ducks.

SOCER (2:55 P.M., ESPN2)

Everton plays Manchester City in the Premier League.

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Sports

Arenas Relishes Chance at Fresh Start

Ex-Wizards guard calls trade to Magic 'a new beginning'

Pro Basketball

Gilbert Arenas was so eager to leave Washington, he didn't even pack his bags.

After he found out his trade to the Magic was official, he ended his workout, grabbed a pair of shoes,

said his goodbyes and caught the first flight to Orlando.

The chance to start over had finally arrived. "This is a new beginning for me," Arenas said Saturday night. "This is a true new beginning. Changing my number was a new beginning, but this is a real new beginning with a new city, new people and new team, and I get to start fresh."

The Magic only hopes he leaves all his problems behind. Arenas was



Gilbert Arenas, the former face of the Wizards, was traded on Saturday.

suspended 50 games last season for bringing a gun into Washington's locker room. He also faked an injury to sit out a preseason game this year, and his off-the-cuff remarks were a distraction for a team now built around top pick John Wall.

Arenas is still due about \$60 million over four years, one of the biggest reasons — along with recurring knee problems that limited him to 47 games the previous three seasons — many teams also stayed clear. But

the Magic was able to unload another ballooning contract in Rashard Lewis, who has two more years after this season remaining on a \$118 million, six-year deal.

Arenas has showed signs this season that he can be close to what he once was when healthy. The 28-year-old has averaged 17.3 points and 5.6 assists, scoring a season-high 31 points against the Magic on Nov. 27. "I had to prove a point," he said, laughing. (AP)

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For more information, please visit our website, www.pbgc.gov.



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December 20, 2010

Terps Expected to Target Leach

Terps Football

Maryland is expected to try to hire former Texas Tech coach Mike Leach as head football coach once the school announces Ralph Friedgen's departure after a 10-year tenure, according to three sources familiar with the situation.

The announcement on Friedgen, who led Maryland to a combined 31 wins his first three seasons and seven bowl games, is expected early this week as the school negotiates a buyout with the coach. The Web site OrangeBloods.com, which covers the University of Texas and

the Big 12, reported Saturday night that Leach would be Maryland's next head football coach, according to a "key Big 12 source."

There is mutual interest for Leach and Maryland, according to three sources, one of whom is close to Leach and two of whom are close to Maryland. Leach is said to be very interested in the job. He has a strong relationship with Kevin Plank, a former Maryland football player who sits on the school's board of trustees and whose apparel company, Under Armour, is the outfitter for the school's athletic teams.

(THE WASHINGTON POST)



Small-Market Ace

The Milwaukee Brewers are going all in for 2011, acquiring former Cy Young winner Zack Greinke in a trade with the Kansas City Royals. The Royals announced Sunday that they acquired shortstop Alcides Escobar, outfielder Lorenzo Cain and two minor league pitchers in exchange for Greinke, shortstop Yuniesky Betancourt and cash. (AP)

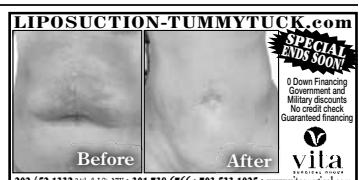
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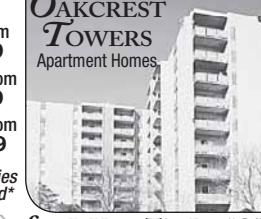
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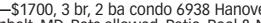
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lookout



Stepping Out

Kate Middleton makes her first post-betrothal public appearance **31**

Booze Clues

Nutmeg Domination

Most winter holiday foods are notoriously awful. Fruitcake? Nobody actually likes it. And what on Earth is figgy pudding? It sounds revolting.

But I'll never understand the people who dislike eggnog. It's frothy and sweet, and you can put alcohol in it. Show me the part of that equation that's unappealing. So, every winter I search out eggnog to match my mother's get-a-train-tipsy recipe, and this year

my favorite is Poste Brasserie's (555 8th St. NW) brandy- and rum-spiked concoction.

Poste's hot cocktail menu includes four new drinks — including the Hazelnut Hot Toddy, which uses rum spiced with Oregon's Rogue Ale. My reaction to infusions is generally "Stop putting things in my bourbon," but rum is a good liquor for new flavors, and anything to do with Rogue is usually guaranteed to make you happy. If that doesn't entice you, try the hot buttered rum, which includes house-made butter and cachaca (a liquor made from fermented sugarcane).

Xmas Alternatives

The Gefilte Fish Gala (Muse Lounge, 717 6th St. NW; 202-686-5990; gefiltefishgala.net) is meant to give those of us who don't celebrate Christmas a chance to get crazy on Dec. 25. Who needs a stocking when there are \$5 rail drinks and \$3 beers before 10 p.m., plus several floors of DJs and dancing? The \$5 donation benefits Susan G. Komen for the Cure. No word on whether any gefilte fish will actually be consumed.



Comments? Give Fiona your feedback: expressnightout.com/boozecues

Auditory Triumphs

In the world of music, 2010 seemed to be the year of the underdog. There was Arcade Fire, which hit Billboard No. 1 on an indie label. Taylor Swift bested seasoned vets to become the only artist this year to sell more than a million albums in one week. Even Kanye West probably felt like David, facing a Goliath-sized amount of bad press. All of those come-from-behind tales made for a rewarding year. (EXPRESS STAFF)

BEST OF 2010

"My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy"

by Kanye West

After self-imposed exile in Hawaii and a much-needed ego check, West surfaced with an unapologetic, overwhelming and star-studded opus. "Fantasy" pushes limits and could convert any hater into Yeezy's biggest fan. **TRACKS TO DOWNLOAD:** "MONSTER," "DARK FANTASY"

"The Suburbs"

by Arcade Fire

No band better captures the delights and uncertainties of youth than Arcade Fire. On "The Suburbs," the indie rockers look both forward and back, revisiting the places where they grew up and contemplating the world their kids will inhabit. **TRACKS TO DOWNLOAD:** "WE USED TO WAIT," "SPRAWL II (MOUNTAINS BEYOND MOUNTAINS)"

"Thank Me Later"

by Drake

Hip-hop newcomer Drake boasts



Most Annoying Artist

Justin Bieber

The first time we heard him sing, we thought, "Hey, that girl has a nice voice." The hype, the hair, and the Biebs-brand nail polish simply baffle us.

with the best of them on his debut disc, "Thank Me Later." Materialism never sounded so smooth. **TRACKS TO DOWNLOAD:** "FIREWORKS," FEAT. ALICIA KEYS; "MISS ME," FEAT. LIL WAYNE

"All Day"

by Girl Talk

The DJ idolized by dance-party obsessed 20-somethings released his latest album with no warning and no price tag. It's more of his mash-

up genius, whose particularly inspired segments include a combo of "Get Low" and Simon and Garfunkel, and the interpolation of Radiohead's "Creep" into "Shimmy Shimmy Ya." **TRACKS TO DOWNLOAD:** WHY PICK AND CHOOSE? IT'S FREE.

"Sir Luscious Leftfoot ... The Son of Chico Dusty"

by Big Boi

The Atlanta rapper emerged from years of record-label limbo with a forward-thinking, infectious solo LP that reminds us that Andre 3000 wasn't the only one pulling the strings in OutKast. **TRACKS TO DOWNLOAD:** "SHUTTERBUG," "SHINE BLOCKAS"

"The ArchAndroid"

by Janelle Monae

No artist in 2010 performed with as much unbridled joy

Singles We Loved

"F*** You" by Cee-Lo Green

Despite its unprintable name and broken-heart tale, the jazzy "F*** You" always makes us smile. We'd love you even if you were more of an Atari than an Xbox, Cee-Lo.

"Mine" by Taylor Swift

In her catchy ballad, Swift shows us through "a careless man's careful daughter" how we can learn from our parents' relationship mistakes and not repeat them.

and charisma as futuristic neo-soul vixen Monae. Her debut, a 70-minute concept album about her messianic android alter ego, seems high-minded at first, but its themes of love and identity ring universal. **TRACKS TO DOWNLOAD:** "TIGHTROPE," "COLD WAR"

lookout entertainment



Stephen Dorff plays an aging playboy and dad to Elle Fanning in "Somewhere."

Lingering 'Somewhere'

Sofia Coppola's new film is a portrait of a man at a crossroads

Film Preview

In just four films — two original and two adaptations — filmmaker Sofia Coppola has proved herself one of the most fascinating American auteurs working today.


Coppola makes pensive, intimate portraits in which her protagonists often feel growing pains while transitioning into a new stage in their isolated, privileged lives. Coppola's strong sense of "cool" has propelled her far from Francis Ford Coppola's paternal shadow.

For her latest film, "Somewhere" (out Dec. 22), Coppola became the first American woman to win the Golden Lion Award for best picture at the Venice Film Festival. In the movie, Hollywood star Johnny Marco (Stephen Dorff) is going nowhere in style — driving his Ferrari, ordering strippers like room service, and partying — when his 11-year-old daughter (Elle Fanning),

who is fast becoming a woman, reappears in his life.

"I thought about how Johnny is at that age in this moment where he can either be a guy with a family or the old guy at the nightclub," Coppola says. "It wouldn't be interesting to do a story about someone where they're at a point where everything's smooth sailing."

Shot with a small crew almost entirely at the Chateau Marmont in Hollywood, "Somewhere" is her most stark and minimalist film to date, sharply contrasting with her previous film, "Marie Antoinette." Inspired by the French New Wave films of Godard and Truffaut, "Somewhere" includes a lot of long, lingering takes of her leading man that might put off an audience with a shorter attention span.

"It was really enjoyable in a way that making a student film can be, where everyone is just kind of helping out and it was small enough that we could have a familiar atmosphere," Coppola says. "It's always scary making a movie, putting your heart in something. I was nervous the pace would come off as boring or indulgent. It's always a balance of how to keep people engaged but still keep the type of style that you want." **CASSIE CARPENTER**
(BACK STAGE)

Jackie O's Ambition

Two authors examine the former first lady's work as a book editor

Nonfiction

When most of us think of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, we remember the perfectly coifed first lady in a stylish shift, a string of pearls and a pillbox hat. Or Jackie O, the rich widow in huge sunglasses that shielded her from the world.

We probably don't think of a middle-aged working woman making her own photocopies, waiting in line to speak to the boss or sitting cross-legged on the floor, arranging photos and puffing on cigarettes.

Yet this was Jackie's third act — the Jackie who joined the work force in her mid-40s and spent nearly two decades as a book editor. By all accounts, it was one of the most satisfying periods of her life.

"She didn't do this just to have a job," says Bruce Tracy, a former colleague at the Doubleday publishing house. "She loved this. This is what she was passionate about."

Two new books examine this little-known part of Jackie's life, giving readers a new slant on a woman who has fascinated Americans like no other person in our history.

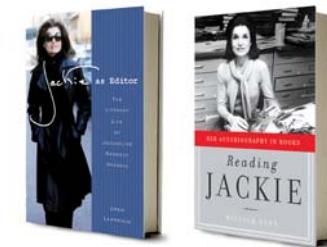
"People think about Jackie's clothes, about her marriages, maybe her redecorating the White House," says historian William Kuhn, author of "Reading Jackie: Her Autobiography in Books" (\$28, Nan A. Talese). "But her editorial career was longer than her two marriages combined. It says more about who she was as a person, because this is something she



After Aristotle Onassis' death, Jackie joined Viking as a book editor. She was 46.

"Her editorial career was longer than her two marriages combined. It says more about who she was as a person, because this is something she actually chose to do."

— **WILLIAM KUHN**, AUTHOR OF "READING JACKIE: HER AUTOBIOGRAPHY IN BOOKS." HIS IS ONE OF TWO NEW CHRONICLES OF THE FORMER FIRST LADY'S PUBLISHING CAREER.



actually chose to do."

Jackie was 46 when she was hired by Viking Press, not long after the 1975 death of Aristotle Onassis. Her early efforts — she spent only two years there, before moving to Doubleday — were a learning process. But her productivity skyrocketed as the years went on. "She amassed a list of books that publishing professionals are in awe of today," Kuhn says.

Her love of dance led to the best-

seller "Dancing on My Grave," by ballerina Gelsey Kirkland and her husband, author Greg Lawrence. Working with her on the book, an account of Kirkland's descent into drug addiction, was "a humbling experience," says Lawrence, who next month comes out with "Jackie as Editor: The Literary Life of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis" (\$26, Thomas Dunne).

Lawrence says that one of the most revealing anecdotes he's ever heard about Jackie came from a friend, editor Joe Armstrong, who visited her in Martha's Vineyard less than a year before she died.

"I remember in her living room she had all these books," Armstrong told Lawrence.

"She said, 'These are my other best friends.'" **JOCELYN NOVECZ (AP)**

TV Beat

One Man's Trash... Discovery Channel has ordered two new reality shows that find hidden treasure amid everyday junk: "Desert Car Kings," about an Arizona family that restores classic vehicles, and "Treasure Nation," about an archaeologist and anthropologist duo who find overlooked artifacts. The network plans to debut 25 series in 2011 — the most in its history. **(HOLLYWOOD REPORTER)**



TV tonight lookout

Best Bets

HIST
9:00

American Pickers A New York collector has filled a train station with vintage cars, but Mike is taken with a mysterious Italian trunk that hasn't been opened in 50 years.

TNT
9:00

The Closer The squad's holiday plans are jeopardized when a long-simmering feud leads to a stabbing on Christmas Eve and the death of a patriarch. That puts unwelcome personal stress on Brenda, whose visiting parents are making a special announcement.

BRAVO
10:00

Tabatha's Salon Takeover Tabatha faces one of the biggest challenges ever when she travels to Houston, where the upscale salon Vendome is on the verge of closing its doors.

TNT
10:00

Men of a Certain Age Joe finds himself dating two women, and Terry makes a bet with a fellow car salesman as to which of them can move more cars in a day. (TRIBUNE MEDIA)



MILLION DOLLAR MONEY DROP

Dramatic, Rich Twist

Dating back to the early days of TV game shows, the money at stake has always been an abstraction represented by a flashing number. In the new Fox offering "Million Dollar Money Drop" (8 p.m.), host Kevin Pollak presents contestants with the sheer physical bulk of a million dollars. Players must place bricks of cash atop slots that will open in the event of a wrong answer, sending their dough hurtling down a chute. KEVIN McDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

Documentary



Studies In Devotion

The four-hour, two-part show "Independent Lens: The Calling" (9 p.m. on PBS), which concludes Tuesday, follows a new generation of American students from Catholic, Protestant, Jewish and Muslim faiths as they prepare to become ordained religious professionals. (TM)

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Yesterday's Results

SHOULD METRO IMPLEMENT METAL DETECTORS AS A SECURITY MEASURE?

68%

32%

— NO — YES —

"Maybe they could bring in TSA and everyone could get groped before and after work."

AN ANONYMOUS COMMENTER

"Finding metal pots and pans in someone's Target bag is not an effective use of anyone's time on an urban subway system."

COMMENTER BFS

SEE HOW YOUR METRO STATION VOTED AT WWW.EXPRESSNIGHTOUT.COM



Defense Intelligence Agency Invitation-Only Hiring Event

February 15 – 16, 2011 • 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Washington, DC

The Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) is hosting a two-day Invitation-Only Hiring Event in support of DIA's global mission for the following occupational specialties:

- Acquisition and Contracting
- Education
- Engineering
- Administrative
- Facilities and Logistics
- Financial Services
- Human Capital
- Information Technology
- Intelligence Collection
- Intelligence Operations
- Oversight and Compliance
- Science
- Security

To be considered for employment, applicants **must apply online before midnight EST January 7, 2011**. To apply online, visit www.dia.mil and, under the **Employment menu, choose Recruiting Events**. For assistance with your online application, please call (202) 231-5500 or email recruiting@dia.mil. DIA Human Resources Specialists will contact all selectees to schedule their interview.

DIA hiring managers will be on site to conduct interviews for immediate and future positions located worldwide. Applicants possessing sought-after skills for positions targeted may receive conditional offers of employment! DIA encourages all professional applicants interested in a career with the nation's premier provider of intelligence to apply online for this event. All applicants must be US citizens. DIA is an equal opportunity employer. Bring your intelligence to DIA.

Committed to Excellence in Defense of the Nation



Blog Log

"I still can't come up with a reason why Eminem and Lil Wayne appeared together on 'Saturday Night Live.' Either man could have easily handled the role of musical guest by himself."

— **CONSEQUENCEOFSOUND.NET** IS A BIT CONFUSED ABOUT WHY THE TWO RAPPERS TEAMED UP TO PERFORM ON NBC SATURDAY.



"It's a lot easier to avoid lead contamination by eating foods not shot to death. When it comes to food targets, maybe it's best to stick with mushroom hunts."

— **VEGETARIANSTAR.COM** THOUGHT SARAH PALIN'S CLAIM THAT SHE HUNTS TO FEED HER FAMILY ORGANIC FOOD IS ILLOGICAL, BECAUSE SOME STUDIES HAVE SHOWN THAT WILD GAME COULD CONTAIN DANGEROUS LEVELS OF LEAD.

"The best romantic comedies have a deep sincerity at the foundation of their charm; the rest that flounder do not, relying solely on the constructed meet-cute antics and perils of two attractive leads. *'How Do You Know'* falls squarely into the latter camp, almost painfully so."

— **CROSSWALK.COM** THOUGHT THE JAMES L. BROOKS-DIRECTED MOVIE, STARRING REESE WITHERSPOON, PAUL RUDD AND OWEN WILSON, WAS A FLOP.

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puzzles lookout

Horoscope

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

You're keeping up with current trends, but there may be something dissatisfaction about doing what everyone else is doing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

What is legal and what is right are two different things; take care that your actions are respectful of both conventions.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

You may find yourself working hard to catch up to someone who was lucky enough to get an early start. You have what it takes to compete.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

As quiet as you are, you know how to say a great deal with a mere gesture or the subtlest action. Others are waiting for your input.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

It's a good day to try something that may have been quite daunting in the recent past. You have little to lose and everything to gain.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

You never know where your inspiration will come from, and it's likely to arrive when you least expect it and most need it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

A family situation benefits from your input, though you may have to contradict what a loved one has been saying. You can get results.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

The envy you feel of those who are doing what you want to be doing is likely to wane as you discover an important new creative outlet.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

You're in search of something that can be the centerpiece of your life — at least for the time being. Maybe it's really a someone.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

It'll take more than money to solve a current problem; patience allows you to think about things in a way that can open a few doors.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

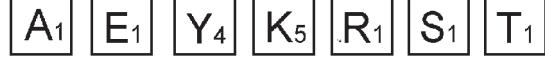
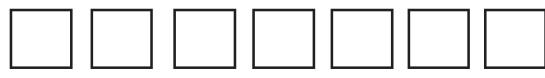
You'll want to leave no stone unturned as you seek that which you feel will bring you closer to home in a more meaningful way.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

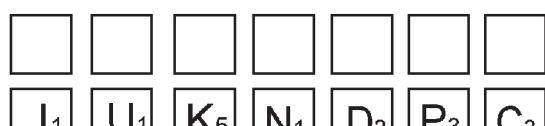
You may not understand everything that is said to you, but you'll surely appreciate that many want to communicate with you.

Scrabble Grams

PAR SCORE 205-215, BEST SCORE 276



2nd Letter
Triple



Double
Word Score



Friday's Solution

B ₃	A ₁	R ₁	M ₄	A ₁	I ₁	D ₂	RACK 1 = 74
M ₃	U ₁	S ₁	C ₃	L ₁	E ₁		RACK 2 = 10
C ₃	A ₁	T ₁	E ₁	R ₁	A ₁	N ₁	RACK 3 = 59
A ₁	C ₃	C ₃	R ₁	U ₁	A ₁	L ₁	RACK 4 = 67
							PAR SCORE 145-155 TOTAL 210

FOUR RACK TOTAL

Make a 2-7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get a 50-point bonus. Blank tiles used as any letter have no point value. Scrabble is a trademark of Hasbro in the U.S. and Canada.

Sudoku

EASY

2	8	9	6	4	1
5		7	2	3	
6			9		
3		6		4	
4		1			
2	7		8		
4				3	
7		6	9	2	
8	2	3	5	6	9

Friday's Solution

2	8	9	7	4	5	3	6	1
1	5	7	6	3	9	4	2	8
4	6	3	1	2	8	7	5	9
5	1	8	3	9	2	6	7	4
9	7	4	8	5	6	2	1	3
3	2	6	4	7	1	9	8	5
8	3	1	2	6	4	5	9	7
7	9	2	5	8	3	1	4	6
6	4	5	9	1	7	8	3	2

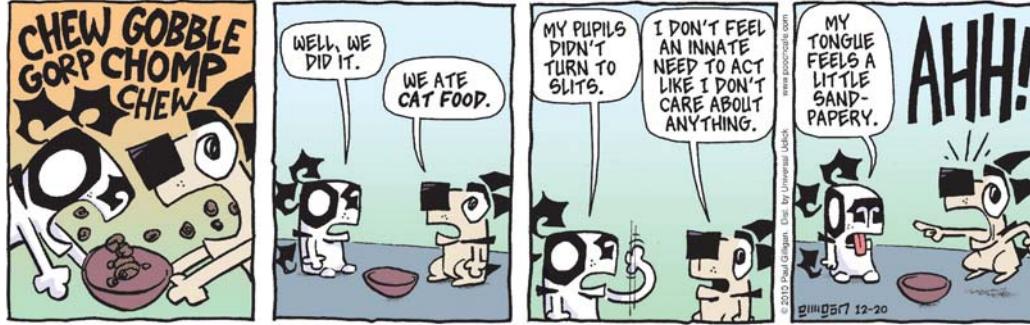
Need more Sudoku?
Find another puzzle in the Comics section of The Post every Sunday and in the Style section Monday through Saturday.

© PUZZLES BY PAPPOCOM

Comics

FIND MORE COMICS AT EXPRESSNIGHTOUT.COM

POOCH CAFE | PAUL GILLIGAN



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE | STEPHAN PASTIS



Forecast



Today: Partly sunny, brisk and cold today. Mostly clear tonight.



Tomorrow: Breezy tomorrow with more clouds. Mostly cloudy tomorrow night.



Looking Ahead



Wednesday: Partly cloudy.



Thursday: Partly cloudy.

Friday: Partly cloudy.



Saturday: Partly cloudy.

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Find the next train arriving at a stop near you, and when it will get you where you're going.

Get Informed.

The Washington Post's Dr. Gridlock team diagnoses your commute with the latest news on Metro.

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Crossword

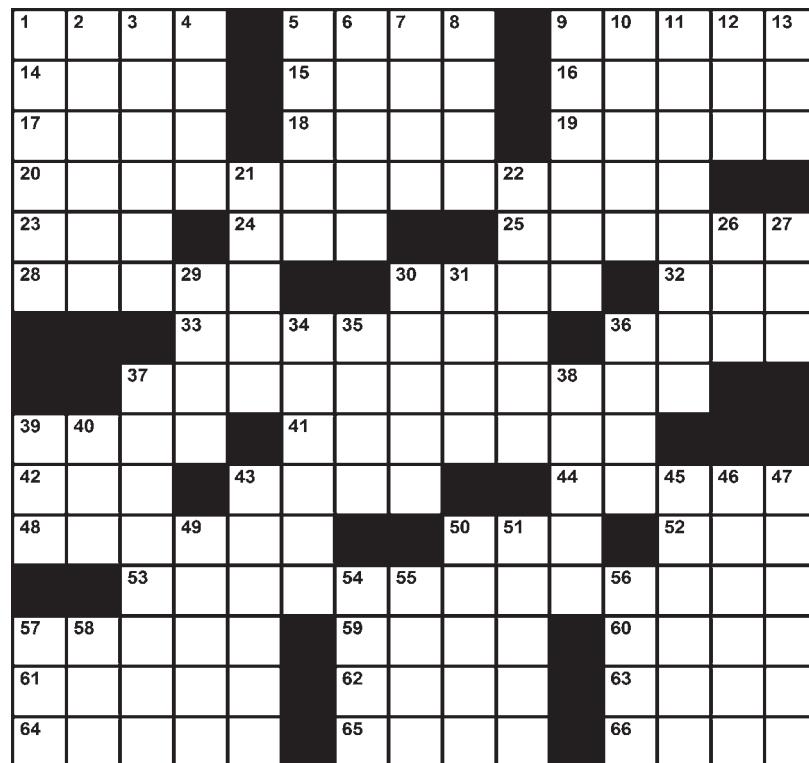
ACROSS

1 Ray, as of sunlight
 5 Prefix with "trooper"
 9 Thin cookie
 14 "The Witching Hour" author Rice
 15 Brother on "Bonanza"
 16 Saturnian, e.g.
 17 Sign of an old injury
 18 Buggy place
 19 Entwining vine
 20 Bright sides
 23 "Starpeace" musician Yoko
 24 It puts an end to poor service?
 25 Papal ambassador
 28 Long, drawn-out stories
 30 Barn section
 32 Bauxite, for one
 33 Youngster's writing challenge
 36 Tea leaves reader
 37 Elite military unit
 39 Arctic ice mass
 41 Seeks help from
 42 Cote quote?
 43 "Bucks" intro
 44 Lauds

48 Stick used as a weapon
 50 Ten Most Wanted list org.
 52 Small island
 53 Some vespids
 57 Professional note taker
 59 Light gas
 60 "That's ___ much"
 61 Trophy or medal
 62 Migratory shorebird
 63 Solitary
 64 Singer Mariah
 65 Unlikely winners defy them
 66 Reason to cram

DOWN

1 Low men at La Scala
 2 California oak
 3 Digital precursor



EDITED BY TIMOTHY E. PARKER

4 Griffin who created "Jeopardy!"
 5 Military chaplain
 6 Not for kids
 7 Indian princess
 8 Revival meeting shout
 9 Brownie mix-in
 10 Do some wheel work
 11 Complete disasters
 12 Browning's bedtime?
 13 Brief genetic transcription
 21 Follow in sequence
 22 Draws conclusions
 26 Cause of a duel, maybe
 27 Donne's "above"
 29 160 square rods
 30 Scales sign
 31 It's within range?

34 Give the same old story
 35 Like a bug in a rug
 36 Ancient Greek portico
 37 Name on a blimp
 38 Moral
 39 Media watchdog, for short
 40 Mary's boss at WJM
 43 Something to hum
 45 Fridge ancestor
 46 Lady from south of the border
 47 It may be bucked
 49 Country or folk
 50 Norwegian coastal feature
 51 Public notice of impending nuptials

54 Cognizant of
 55 Garden intruder
 56 Cabbage kin
 57 Pouchlike body part
 58 Big airline until 2001

Friday's Solution



Today in History

1860

South Carolina becomes the first state to secede from the Union.

1963

The Berlin Wall is opened for the first time to West Berliners.

1999

The Vermont Supreme Court rules gay couples are entitled to the same benefits and protections as wedded couples of the opposite sex.

express



Editorial: 202-334-6800

Fax: 202-334-9777

Circulation: 202-334-6992

Advertising: 202-334-6732

or ads@readexpress.com

Classifieds: 202-334-6200

EXPRESS STAFF: PUBLISHER—CHRISTOPHER MA | GENERAL MANAGER—ARNIE APPLEBAUM | EDITOR—DAN CACCAVARO | CREATIVE DIRECTOR—SCOTT MCCARTHY | ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITORS—HOLLY J. MORRIS, MATT SWENSON | ART DIRECTOR—LORI KELLEY | FEATURES EDITOR—JENNIFER BARGER | SENIOR EDITORS—VICKY HALLETT, SHAUNA MILLER, KRISTEN PAGE-KIRBY | SECTION EDITORS—KATIE ABERBACH, MORGAN SCHNEIDER, SARA SCHWARTZ, DARONA WILLIAMS, CLINTON YATES, FIONA ZUBLIN | EDITORIAL DESIGN—ADAM GRIFFITHS, ERNIE SMITH | COPY CHIEF—AIMEE GOODWIN | PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR—MATTHEW LIDDI | PHOTOGRAPHER—MARGE ELY | WEB EDITORS—RUDI GREENBERG, CHRIS CHESTER

people lookout



TROPS

Manic Pixie Dream Lawsuit To Endear/Irritate All Involved

Zooey Deschanel is suing Steve Madden for \$2 million, TMZ.com reported. The lawsuit, filed Friday in Los Angeles Superior Court, says the shoe company failed to make good on an endorsement deal made in August 2010 for \$2 million. (EXPRESS)

SHAME

New Jersey Pulls Plug On 'Ronnie Ortiz-Magro' Turnpike Service Plaza

A "Jersey Shore" star has been indicted for an assault prosecutors say happened off camera. A grand jury in Ocean County, N.J., says there's evidence that Ronald "Ronnie" Ortiz-Magro knocked a man out with a punch on Sept. 4, 2009. While the punch wasn't shown on-screen, Ortiz-Magro was seen bragging about it. (AP)



FREDERICK M. BROWN/GETTY IMAGES

Honestly, is "Ronnie" as a nickname for "Ronald" really worth quote marks?

Weirdo Watch



Star-Whackers Mull Canada Trip

Randy Quaid's wife, Evi, failed to appear for a probation hearing Thursday in Santa Barbara, Calif., and faces a new \$100,000 arrest warrant. At the hearing, Evi Quaid's attorney, Robert Sanger, withdrew from the case. The Quaids remain in Canada, where they are seeking asylum from a group they've dubbed the "Hollywood star-whackers." (AP)



CHRIS JACKSON/GETTY IMAGES

PRE-ROYALTY

Almost Special Enough

Kate Middleton made her first public appearance Saturday night since announcing her engagement to Prince William, joining him at a cancer charity fundraising event. Middleton is not officially part of the royal family until her marriage April 29, but this week she joined Queen Elizabeth II and the rest of the family's inner circle at a pre-Christmas lunch at Buckingham Palace, signaling her new status. (AP)

TECHNOLOGY

Twitter Means Always Having to Say You're Sorry

Neil Patrick Harris tweeted his regret for calling actor Eric Braeden a "D-bag," also via tweet. Harris was annoyed when the "Young and the Restless" star backed out of a "How I Met Your Mother" guest appearance at the last minute (Braeden allegedly said the part wasn't substantial enough). A few hours after the angry Friday tweet, Harris added, "Now I feel bad ... I'm just fiercely protective of our show." (EXPRESS)

"My body ... wasn't put on this earth to look good in a swimsuit."



— AMY ADAMS TELLS PARADE MAGAZINE SHE'S FINE WITH HAVING GAINED WEIGHT WHILE PREGNANT AND ISN'T PANICKING ABOUT SHEDDING THE POUNDS ALL AT ONCE.

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~~Best choice~~ ~~Obvious choice~~ ~~My choice~~ ~~Great choice~~ ~~Only choice~~
~~Perfect choice~~ ~~Right choice~~
~~Complete choice~~
~~Easy choice~~

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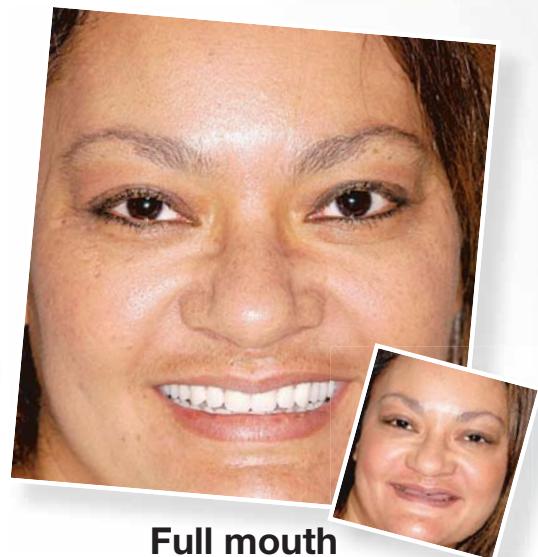
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